# Listening to the Prophets

A Study of Old Testament Major Prophets
Lesson 9
Daniel Chapters 7-12

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http://newjerusalemcommunity.blogspot.com/2011/05/old-testament-prophets.html

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#### Lesson 9

# The Book of Daniel (Chapters 7-12)

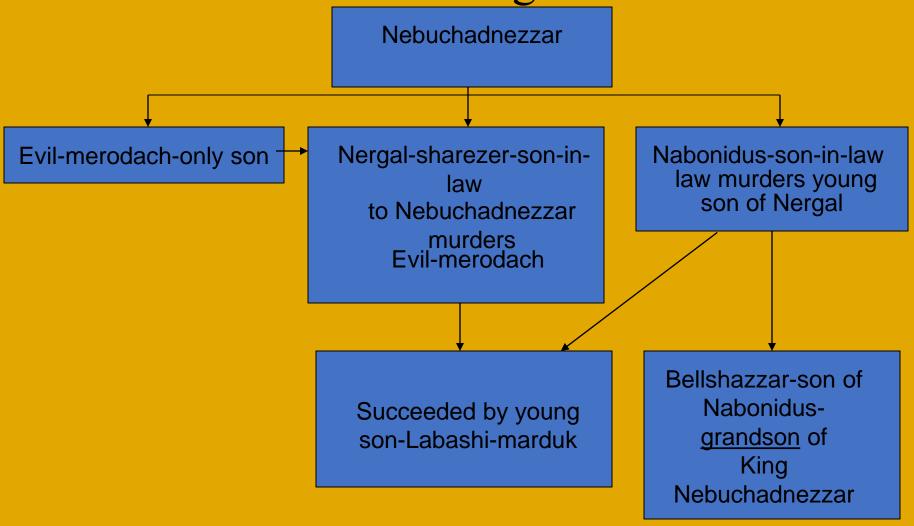
### Introduction [\*]

Chapter 7:1 takes place during the first year of Belshazzar, probably 553 B.C., fourteen years before the fall of Babylon (539 BC).49



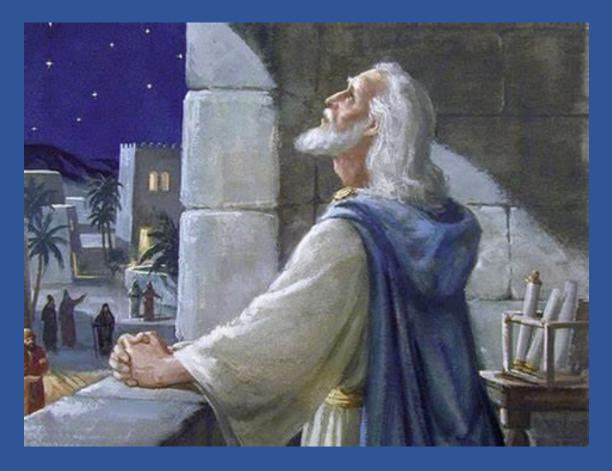
https://www.pinterest.ie/pin/466615211383701448/

#### Nebuchadnezzar's Lineage



 Daniel's vision takes place between Chapters 4 and 5.

 Daniel had these visions after King
 Nebuchadnezzar's reign and during his exile years from the King's palace.



http://sgilmore215.blogspot.com/2013/06/pray-like-daniel.html

- Daniel 7:2 [\*]
- The "winds" in 7:2 speak of agitation, propaganda, public opinion, and disturbance while the "sea" suggests the masses, the mob, and the peoples of the Gentiles.51



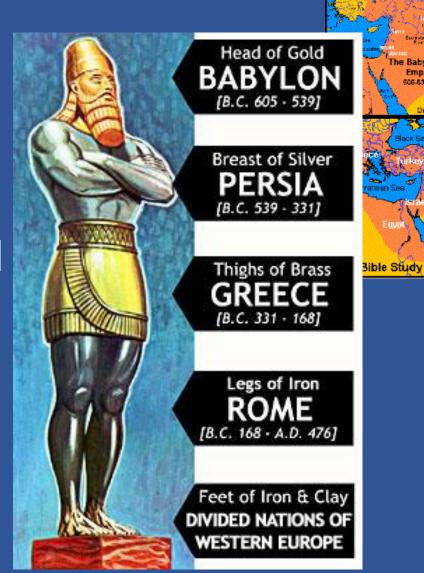
https://www.shutterstock.com/video/search/violent-sea

• In other words, the conglomerate population of Gentiles. 52

The Greco-Macedonian Empire

## Chapter 7-Daniel's Vision

- Chapter 7:3-10 [\*]
- These verses represent the four kingdoms in Daniel chapter 2 that was characterized by the great image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream statue.



#### Verses 4-8

 The eagle's wings represented the speed of Babylon's army; and the plucked feathers represented Nebuchadnezzar's mental lapse and loss of identity. The fact that the beast stood upon its feet as a man represented Nebuchadnezzar's restoration.53



http://llamadodeberea.blogspot.com/2012/05/daniel-7-las-visiones.html

The Bear "raising up on one side" most likely represented the dual reign of the Medes and the Persians with the Persians being the stronger of the two. 54



http://llamadodeberea.blogspot.com/2012/05/daniel-7-las-visiones.html

• The Leopard's four wings represented the tremendous speed of Alexander's Empire. The four heads represented the division of Alexander's empire after his death.55



http://llamadodeberea.blogspot.com/2012/05/daniel-7-las-visiones.html

 More attention is given to the <u>fourth</u> beast than to all the other three (vs. 7-8).

• This beast characterized the strength of the Roman Empire. 56



http://llamadodeberea.blogspot.com/2012/05/daniel-7-las-visiones.html

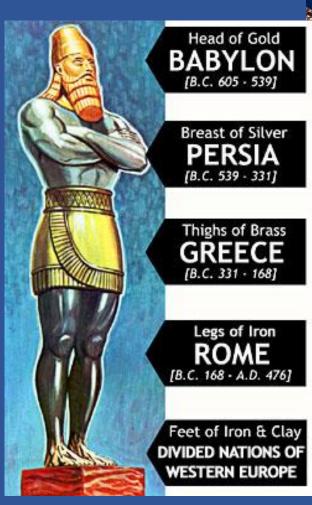
• The ten horns represented the future ten nation confederacy that would arise from the old Roman Empire. This will take place during the Tribulation period. 57



http://llamadodeberea.blogspot.com/2012/05/daniel-7-las-visiones.html

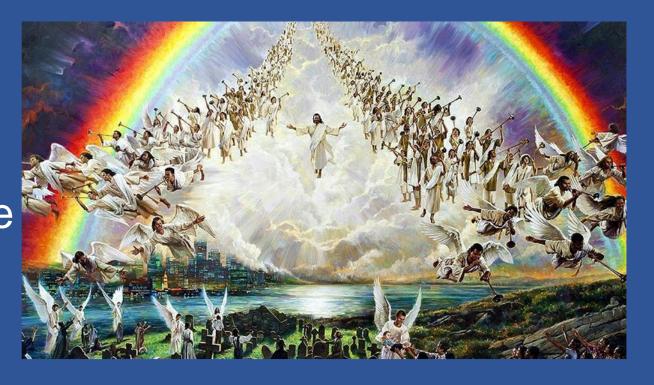
 The ten horns paralleled the ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar' s statue.

• The little horn represented the antichrist that would arise from among the ten-nation confederacy.58





- Daniel 7:9-10 [\*]
- Compare to Revelation22:1-5 [\*]
- Verses 9-10 represent the preparations for the judgment of the Great Tribulation and Christ's second coming to the earth.59



https://reasonsforjesus.com/the-second-coming-of-jesus-metaphor-or-literal/

- Verses 11-28 tell of another kingdom (vs. 13-14) [\*]
  - This kingdom will be Christ's kingdom during the Millennial Reign.
  - The "times of the Gentiles" began with Nebuchadnezzar and will end with Christ's return after the Great Tribulation.

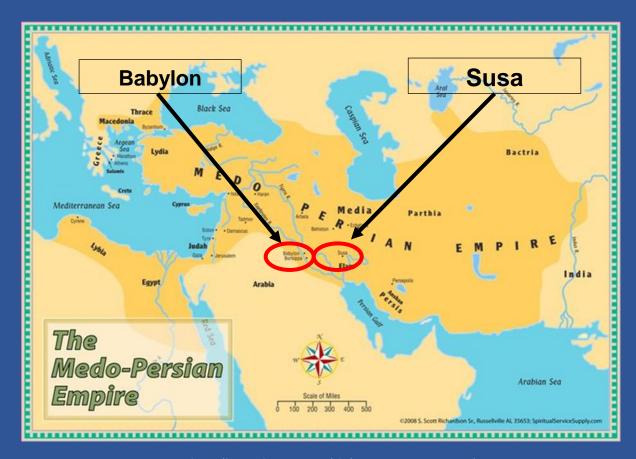


https://reasonsforjesus.com/the-second-coming-of-jesus-metaphor-or-literal/

### **Chapter 8-The Goat and the Ram**

#### **Verses1-2** [\*]

- This vision took place two years after Chapter 7 and before the fall of Babylon in 539 B.C. 60
- Daniel's vision took him to <u>Susa</u>, which later became the capital of the Medo-Persian Empire.



 At the time of the vision, Susa was a little-known town yet destined to be the important capital of Persia, the home of Esther, and the city from which Nehemiah would come.

 Sousa was where the <u>Code of Hammurabi</u> was found in 1901.



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/505106914430580877/

 The reason why Daniel found himself in Susa rather than Babylon was because this vision applied to the up-coming Medo-Persian Empire.

• Ancient Susa was about 150 miles north of the present head of the Persian Gulf near Iran.61



https://www.pinterest .com/pin/505106914430580877/

#### **Verses 3-4** [\*]

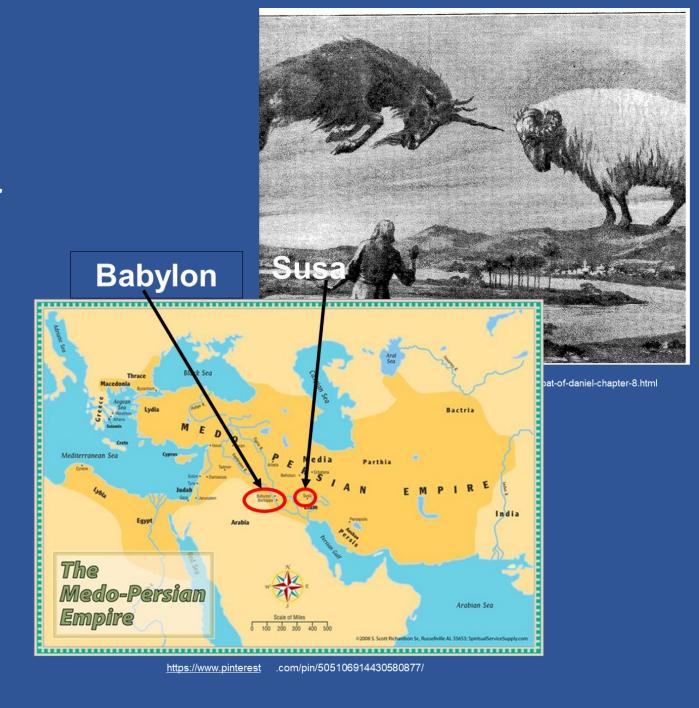
 The ram signified Media-Persia. The first horn represented Median Empire while the second and larger horn represented the Persian Empire. Persia would become the greater of the two empires.62



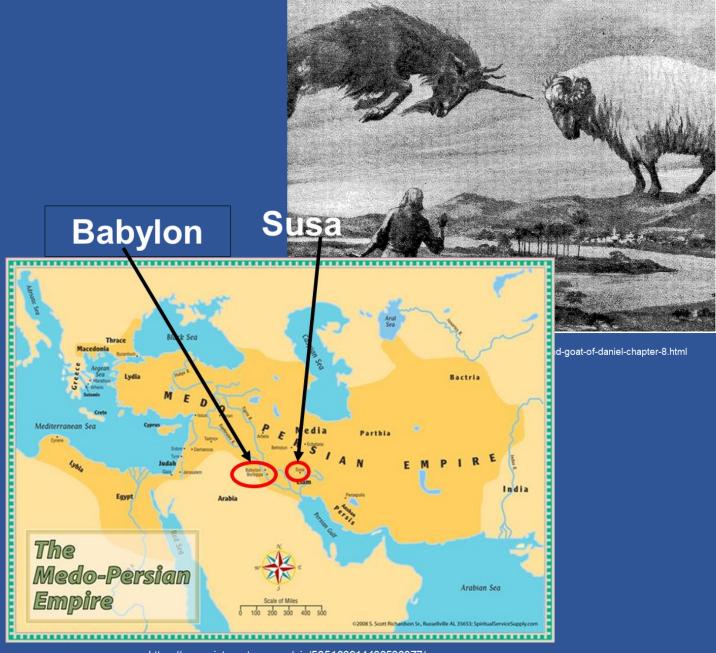
#### **Verses 5-7** [\*]

 The goat represented the Greek empire under Alexander the Great.

 Under Xerxes, Persia intended to move west toward Greece.
 However, the goat (Greece) swiftly attacked and destroyed Persia from the west.



- Xerxes moved his 300,000-man army with their families toward Greece. This slow lumbering speed represented the bear in Chapter 7.
- Bible scholars feel
   Xerxes was the king to
   Queen Esther of the
   Bible.64



#### Verses 8-12 [\*]

• The phrase (vs. 8) "...as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken..." represented Alexander's sudden death.

 Alexander was seized by a fever after a night-long drinking binge. He died in Babylon in 323 B.C.65



http://ccofct.blogspot.com/2015/08/the-ram-and-goat-of-daniel-chapter-8.html

 The four horns represented Alexander's divided empire.

• Four of Alexander's generals took over the empire: Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus, and Ptolemy.66



http://goccuk321.blogspot.com/2012/11/the-serpents-seed-antiochus-epiphanes.html

 The little horn represented Antiochus Epiphanes, the eighth king in the Syrian dynasty. He reigned from 175-164 B.C.



- Epiphanies attacked and captured Jerusalem. His cruelty was unimaginable.
- Daniel 8:10 [\*] Verse 10 indicates Antiochus challenged God and was allowed to capture
   Jerusalem and the temple.



https://holylandmaps.org/project/antiochus-epiphanes-repression-in-jerusalem/

• This warfare included the spiritual realm of angels and demons. Some feats attributed to Antiochus are astounding; if true, demonic power was exhibited.67

• Antiochus <u>defiled</u> the temple and sacrificed swine and unclean animals.68



https://holylandmaps.org/project/antiochus-epiphanes-repression-in-jerusalem/

### Verses 13-16 [\*]

• Verses 13-14 states
Epiphanies would defile
the temple for 2,300
evenings and mornings.
This defilement lasted
from about 171 B.C. to
Dec. 25, 165 B.C.

• Epiphanies died during a military campaign in Media.70



https://holylandmaps.org/project/antiochus-epiphanes-repression-in-jerusalem/

The Jewish priest, <u>Judas</u>
 <u>Maccabeus</u>, the
 "hammer," drove out the
 Syrian army and
 cleansed and rededicated
 the temple.

 The Feast of Lights celebrates this event. The Jews celebrate this feast today (<u>Hanukkah</u>).



https://patch.com/new-jersey/chatham/happy-hanukkah-menorah-lighting-chatham-sunday

 These events occurred during the intertestamental period between the Old and New Testaments.



https://patch.com/new-jersey/chatham/happy-hanukkah-menorah-lighting-chatham-sunday

#### **Verses 17-27**

 Verse 19 states all these events pertained to end times and paralleled Daniel Chapter 2. [\*]



http://ccofct.blogspot.com/2015/08/the-ram-and-goat-of-daniel-chapter-8.html

# **Chapter 9**

#### Verses 1-2 [\*]

 Babylon fell during the first year of Darius the Mede and Cyrus, king of Persia.



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/558094578827630118/

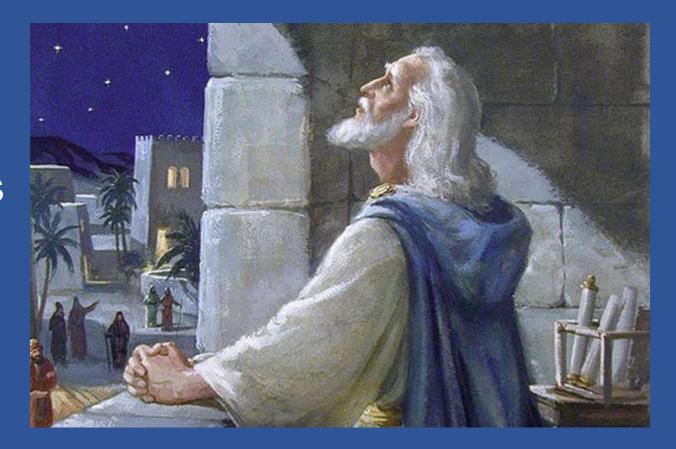
 Darius could have been a provincial governor or could have been Cyrus himself.

Daniel studied Jeremiah's prophecy of the <u>seventy-year</u> captivity (Jeremiah 25: 11-12 [\*]



#### **Verses 3-19**

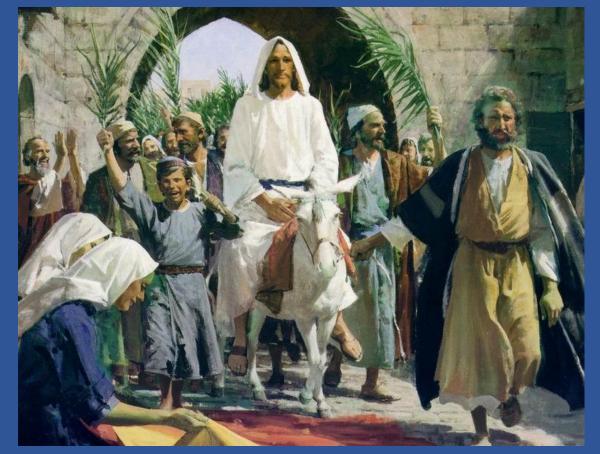
 Daniel confessed Israel's sins and praised God for His faithfulness. [\*]



https://bibleteachingnotes.blog/2019/02/25/daniel-9/

### Verses 20-27 [\*]

- The angel Gabriel visited Daniel for the second time (Daniel 8:15-16). [\*]
- Daniel 9:24-27 gives a countdown from the decree to restore and rebuild <u>Jerusalem</u> until the Messiah, the Prince (Jesus), would come. [\*]



http://mydivinemercy.blogspot.com/2011/04/jesus-enters-jerusalem-palm-sunday.html

 The countdown included 70 weeks of years or 490 years.

The decree to restore
 Jerusalem took place in
 the month of Nisan 445
 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1-8).[\*]
 This began the countdown
 for Daniel's 70 weeks.

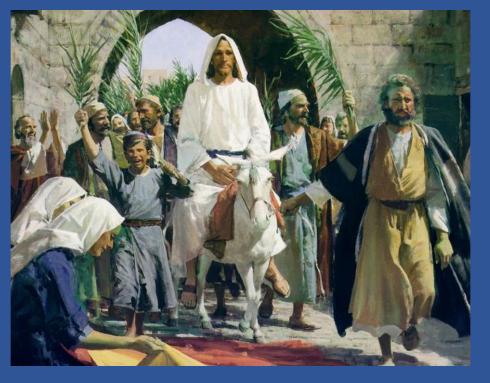
 After 69 weeks, the Messiah would come.



https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102016077

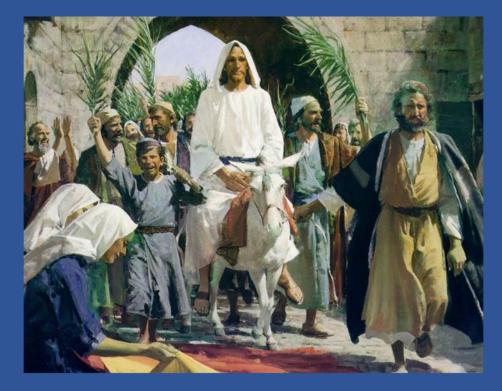
"Sir Robert Anderson in his book, The Coming Prince, has worked out the time schedule. After 69 weeks (173, 880 days) the Messiah would come. The command to rebuild Jerusalem by Artaxerxes took place

Nisan 445 B.C.

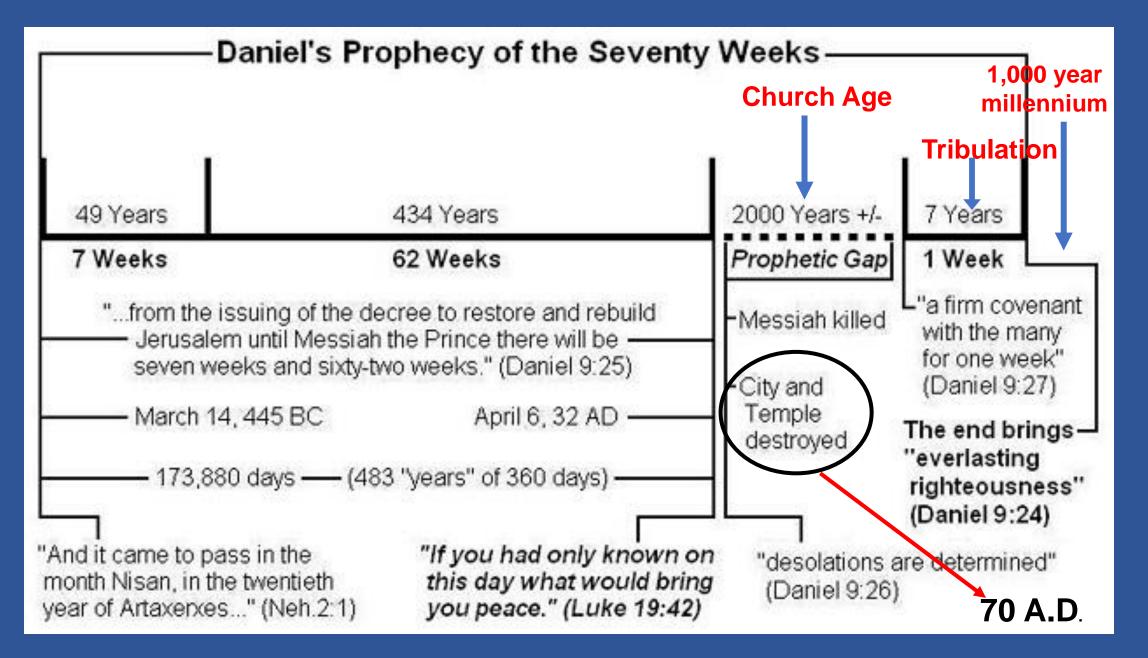


http://mydivinemercy.blogspot.com/2011/04/jesus-enters-jerusalem-palm-sunday.html

From this date to when Jesus entered Jerusalem (April 6 A.D. 32) calculates to 173,880 days which is the exact day Jesus entered Jerusalem openly declaring Himself as the Messiah.

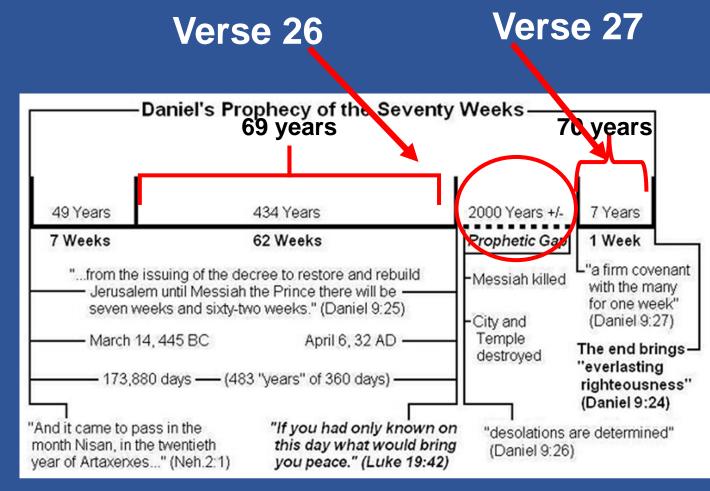


http://mydivinemercy.blogspot.com/2011/04/jesus-enters-jerusalem-palm-sunday.html



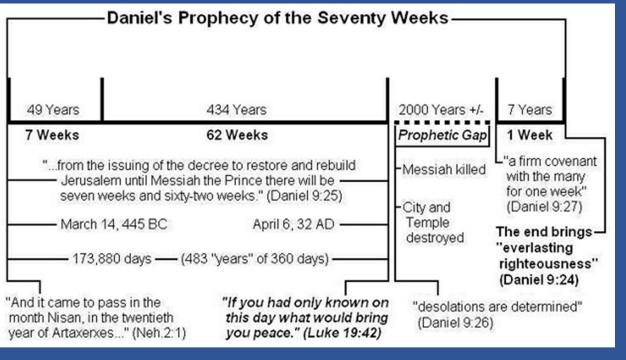
 A gap appears between the 69th year and the 70th year. Verse 26-27 includes this gap. We are now in this gap which is called the "age of grace" or the present Church Age. [1]

 After 69 weeks, the Messiah would be cut off or crucified.



https://www.redmoonrising.com/RMRbook/Ch1.htm

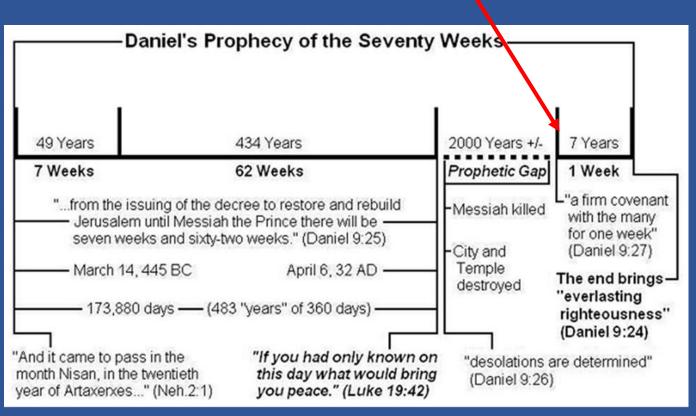
 Verse 26 states the people of the prince (the Romans) who is to come will destroy the city and sanctuary. The destruction occurred in 70 A.D. The Prince will come later (at the start of the Tribulation). The Antichrist will manifest himself as The Prince. This Prince is the "little horn" in Daniel 7 and the "beast" of Revelation 13.



https://www.redmoonrising.com/RMRbook/Ch1.htm

 Daniel 9:27-The 70th week will take place after the Church is removed from the earth (the rapture).

 "...and he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week..." This covenant will be made by the <u>Antichrist</u> with Israel during the Great Tribulation.

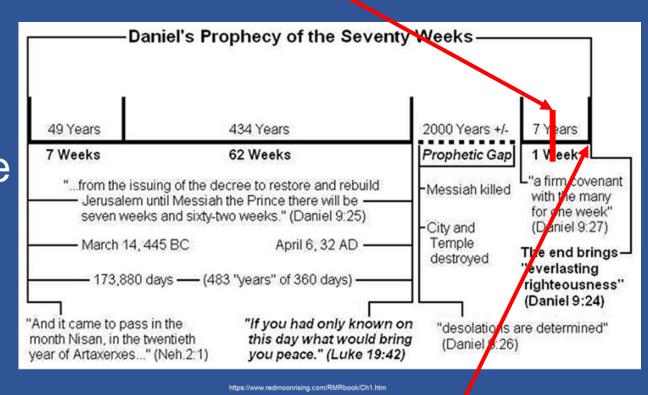


Rapture

https://www.redmoonrising.com/RMRbook/Ch1.htm

 One week refers to a seven-year period. At the beginning of the seven years, the antichrist will make a peace covenant with Israel. However, in the middle of the seven years 3 ½ years, he will break this covenant and will defile the temple.

# A Break in the Week

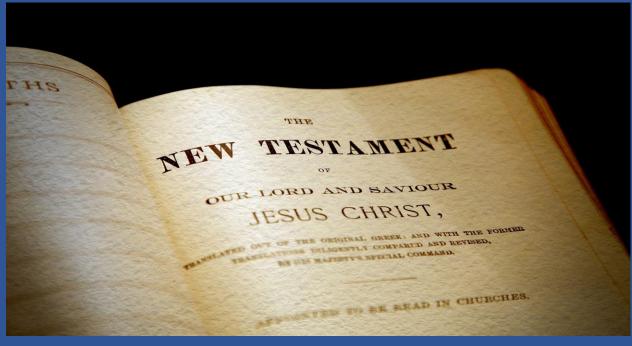


 Christ's second coming will bring an end to the Antichrist and his rule.

Christ's Second Coming

### Chapters 10-12

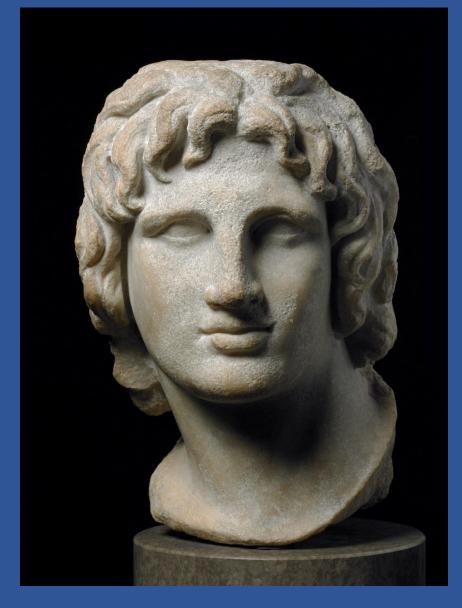
 Chapters 10-12 bridge the gap between the Old and New Testaments. This period is often referred to as the "Period of Silence" since there are no recorded prophets.



 Even though there were no actual prophets during this "intertestamental" period, Chapters 10-12 explain the events that would occur.

https://www.wondriumdaily.com/synoptic-gospels-historians-approach/

- These prophesies so accurately describe the "intertestamental" period that many critics say the book of Daniel must have a later date. Evidence, however, proves otherwise.
- These chapters give a very detailed account of <u>Alexander's</u> empire, his death, and the division of the empire.



https://medium.com/practice-of-history-2018/alexander-the-great-6cb2cd3864cd

- Chapter 11 gives
   astounding and accurate
   accounts of the strife that
   would occur between
   Syria and Egypt.
- Chapter 12 predicts the resurrection of Old Testament believers, the resurrection of the Tribulation martyrs, and the second coming of Christ. [\*]



http://godsheart-heart2heart.blogspot.com/2016/05/this-is-second-coming-of-jesus-christ.html

## Summary

- Though many of Daniels visions would not take place during his lifetime, Daniel remained faithful to God.
- Daniel knew that obedience to God was more important than seeking the favor of man.
- God has given us amazing prophecies through the Old Testament prophets. Many of these prophecies have come to pass while others are future related.

- It is up to each person to study God's word and to patiently apply it their lives.
- Do not become discouraged when prayers are not answered immediately. Trust God's timing and trust His faithfulness.
- The prophet's words are as relevant today as they were 2600 years ago.
- "The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love." [NLT]

End---

#### Daniel 7:1

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and told the following summary of it.

#### Daniel 7:2

Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. [\*]

#### Daniel 7:3-10

3 And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. 4 The first was like a lion but had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and set up on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it.

5 And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and they said this to it: 'Arise, devour much meat!' 6 After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

7 After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 While I was thinking about the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the previous horns were plucked out before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like human eyes, and a mouth uttering great boasts. Over 9 "I kept looking

Until thrones were set up,

And the Ancient of Days took His seat;

His garment was white as snow,

And the hair of His head like pure wool.

His throne was ablaze with flames,

Its wheels were a burning fire.

10 "A river of fire was flowing

And coming out from before Him;

Thousands upon thousands were serving Him,

And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him;

The court convened,

And the books were opened.

9 "I kept looking

Until thrones were set up,

And the Ancient of Days took His seat;

His garment was white as snow,

And the hair of His head like pure wool.

His throne was ablaze with flames,

Its wheels were a burning fire.

10 "A river of fire was flowing

And coming out from before Him;

Thousands upon thousands were serving Him,

And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him;

The court convened,

And the books were opened.

13 "I kept looking in the night visions,

And behold, with the clouds of heaven

One like a son of man was coming,

And He came up to the Ancient of Days

And was presented before Him.

14 "And to Him was given dominion,

Honor, and a kingdom,

So that all the peoples, nations, and populations of all languages

Might serve Him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion

Which will not pass away;

And His kingdom is one

Which will not be destroyed. [\*]

#### **Daniel 8:1-2**

1 In the third year of the reign of Belshazzar the king, a vision appeared to me, Daniel, subsequent to the one which appeared to me previously. 2 I looked in the vision, and while I was looking, I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam; and I looked in the vision, and I myself was beside the Ulai [U-lie] Canal.

#### **Daniel 8:3-4**

3 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. 4 I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand against him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and made himself great. [\*]

#### **Daniel 8:5-7**

5 While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the entire earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a prominent horn between his eyes. 6 He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath

7 And I saw him come up beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and smashed his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was no one to rescue the ram from his power. []

#### Daniel 8:8-12

8 Then the male goat made himself exceedingly great. But once he became powerful, the large horn was broken; and in its place four prominent horns came up toward the four winds of heaven. 9 And out of one of them came a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land.

10 It grew up to the heavenly lights, and some of the lights, that is, some of the stars it threw down to the earth, and it trampled them. 11 It even exalted itself to be equal with the Commander of the army; and it removed the regular sacrifice from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was overthrown. 12 And because of an offense the army will be given to the horn along with the regular sacrifice; and it will hurl truth to the ground and do as it pleases and be successful. [\*]

#### Daniel 8:10

10 It grew up to the heavenly lights, and some of the lights, that is, some of the stars it threw down to the earth, and it trampled them. [\*]

#### Daniel 8:13-16

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that particular one who was speaking, "How long will the vision about the regular sacrifice apply, while the offense causes horror, so as to allow both the sanctuary and the army to be trampled?" 14 And he said to me, "For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be properly restored."

15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, standing before me was one who looked like a man. 16 And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of Ulai, and he called out and said, "Gabriel, explain the vision to this man." [1]

#### Daniel 8:19

19 And he said, "Behold, I am going to inform you of what will occur at the final period of the indignation, because it pertains to the appointed time of the end. [\*]

#### **Daniel 9:1-2**

1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans—2 in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years.

Jeremiah 25:11-12

11 This entire land will be a place of ruins and an object of horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon for seventy years. 12 'Then it will be when seventy years are completed I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation,' declares the Lord, 'for their wrongdoing, and the land of the Chaldeans; and I will make it an everlasting desolation.

**Daniel 9:3-6** 

3 So I gave my attention to the Lord God, to seek Him by prayer and pleading, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. 4 I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed, and said, "Oh, Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and faithfulness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, 5 we have sinned, we have done wrong, and acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances. [\*]

Daniel 9:20-21

20 While I was still speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my plea before the Lord my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God, 21 while I was still speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously (chapter 8), came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering. [\*]

Daniel 8:15-16

15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, standing before me was one who looked like a man. 16 And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of Ulai, and he called out and said, "Gabriel, explain the vision to this man." [1]

Daniel 9:24

24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the wrongdoing, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy Place. 25 So you are to know and understand that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince, there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks (69 weeks); it will be built again, with streets and moat, even in times of distress. Over---

26 Then after the sixty-two weeks, the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 And he will confirm a covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come the one who makes desolate, until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, gushes forth on the one who makes desolate." [\*]

## Nehemiah 2:1-8

1 And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, that wine was before him, and I picked up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. 2 So the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, though you are not ill? This is nothing but sadness of heart." Then I was very much afraid.

3 And I said to the king, "May the king live forever. Why should my face not be sad when the city, the site of my fathers' tombs, is desolate and its gates have been consumed by fire?" 4 Then the king said to me, "What would you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. 5 Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, I request that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it." Over----

6 Then the king said to me, with the queen sitting beside him, "How long will your journey be, and when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me, and I gave him a definite time. 7 And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me for the governors of the provinces beyond the River, so that they will allow me to pass through until I come to Judah,

8 and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, so that he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which is by the temple, for the wall of the city, and for the house to which I will go." And the king granted them to me because the good hand of my God was on me.

\*

Daniel 9:26-27

26 Then after the sixty-two weeks

(7 weeks+62weeks=69 weeks), the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.

27 And he will confirm a covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week (3 ½ years) he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come the one who makes desolate, until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, gushes forth on the one who makes desolate." [1]

## Daniel 12:1-4

1 "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. 3 And those who have insight will shine like the glow of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

4 But as for you, Daniel, keep these words secret and seal up the book until the end of time; many will roam about, and knowledge will increase." [\*]

## BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL

(10,000 Reasons) (Matt Redman)

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger

Your name is great and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

I'll worship Your holy name

I'll worship Your holy name

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## Revelation 22:1-5

1 And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; 4 they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. 5 And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illuminate them; and they will reign forever and ever.

End---